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The News Editor,

PRESS RELEASE: FRIMPONG-MANSO INSTITUTE (FMI) COMMISERATES WITH VICTIMS OF RECENT ACCRA FLOODS; CALLS FOR URGENT NATIONAL ACTION ON FLOOD PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Frimpong-Manso Institute (FMI) extends its heartfelt commiserations to individuals, families, and communities affected by the recent flooding incidents in Accra and across the nation.

We express our deepest sympathy to all victims who have suffered loss of property, disruption of livelihoods, and emotional distress as a result of the floods.

Frimpong-Manso Institute notes with grave concern that flooding has increasingly become an annual occurrence in Accra and other parts of Ghana, exposing long-standing challenges in urban planning, drainage management, and environmental sanitation. The Institute emphasizes that Ghana continues to lose significant socio-economic value each year due to preventable flooding disasters.

“As a nation, we talk so much about the flood situation during the rainy period, but little or nothing concrete is done immediately the rains stop, causing us to return to the exact same issue the following year. We must break this cycle; we must demand actionable policies that will thrive, backed by strict punitive measures to curb the situation permanently.”

According to the Institute, the recurring nature of these floods calls for decisive, coordinated, and sustained action from all duty bearers, including government agencies, local authorities, traditional leaders, civil society organizations, and religious bodies.

“The time has come for us as a nation to move beyond reactive responses to flooding and adopt long-term preventive measures,” the Institute stated. “We cannot continue treating flooding as an annual ritual while lives and property are repeatedly put at risk.”

Frimpong-Manso Institute further highlights the urgent need for a national behavioral and attitudinal change regarding environmental sanitation. The Institute stresses that indiscriminate dumping of refuse, especially into gutters and waterways, remains a major contributor to urban flooding and must be urgently addressed.

“Behavioral change is key. We must nip in the bud the habit of haphazard waste disposal. Communities must be educated, empowered, and held accountable for maintaining clean environments,” the statement added.

The Institute is calling on the government to strictly enforce planning regulations to prevent the construction of buildings on waterways, wetlands, and drainage paths, which significantly worsen flood impacts.

Frimpong-Manso Institute also underscores the critical role of the church and faith-based organizations in environmental advocacy. The Institute urges religious bodies to take a leading role in educating congregations and communities on proper waste management and responsible environmental stewardship.

“The church and all faith-based organizations must rise to the occasion. This is not only an environmental issue but a moral responsibility. We must collectively safeguard creation and protect human life,” FMI emphasized.

The Frimpong-Manso Institute remains committed to supporting national efforts aimed at promoting environmental sustainability, civic responsibility, and disaster prevention.

ISSUED BY FRIMPONG-MANSO INSTITUTE

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Thank you.